

Daily Confederate.

D. K. McRAE, Editor.

All letters on business of the Office, to be directed to A. M. GORMAN & CO.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1865.

New Rates.	
SUBSCRIPTION AND ADVERTISING.	
Daily one month,	\$10
Daily three months,	20
Daily six months,	40
Tri-Weekly three months,	15
Tri-Weekly six months,	30
Weekly three months,	10
Weekly six months,	20
Advertising per square,	5

The office of the *Confederate* needs an associate Editor and general business manager and superintendent, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of A. M. Gorman, Esq. Applications will be received to fill this vacancy. Those applying must be practical Printers, and of sufficient experience to take the management of a large concern, with ability to give suitable references.

Address, EDITOR CONFEDERATE.

Very soon after hostilities began—before the blood was up, and heated—when it was supposed that some remains of a once friendly feeling might be preserved by the North—and before our enemies could be supposed to have forgotten the cherished and much-lauded principles of the right of self-government—Mr. Davis made an earnest effort to negotiate for peace. Twice did he make this effort. Afterwards, when the brutalities, practiced on our people, threatened to involve the strife in departures from the rules of civilization, he again, listening to the suggestion of Vice President Stephens, requested that gentlemen to obtain a hearing of the Federal authorities—if for no more, at least, in order to mitigate, if possible, the horrors of war. In each instance, his efforts were rejected with insulting contumely.

Thereafter, citizens of the North, some of them officers in their service, came to the lines of the enemy's army, and asked to cross our lines, in the interests of peace. They were so permitted; and when they came to Richmond, they were well received—admitted to a hearing—and assured by President Davis, of his willingness, at any moment, to begin negotiations for an honorable peace.

Subsequently still, Mr. F. P. Blair, came to Richmond, on a similar mission; and to him the same frank and free-hearing was extended. And then followed a "written notification, which satisfied President Davis that the President of the United States was disposed to confer, informally, with unofficial agents that might be sent by him, with a view of restoring peace."

This written notification was promptly complied with; and Vice President Stephens, and Hon. R. M. T. Hunter, and J. A. Campbell, were selected to hold the conference. There was not only, in the character of the persons selected, but also, in the manner of their selection, an earnest, of the sincere purpose of the President, and of his desire for the successful issue of the conference. He thus stands before the people of the Confederate States, acquitted of all suspicion of having ever interposed in the way of peace. Nay, more, he stands, proved by irrefragable testimony, to have sought every possible opportunity for negotiations.

It is already before the public how signally and offensively to us has been the failure of this last mentioned conference. Our commissioners were floated down stream to Hampton Roads. They were invited no further. They were not permitted to visit Washington, and they bring influence to bear as their established reputation would well carry. They were not even allowed to land at Fortress Monroe; but Lincoln and Seward met them on board the boat, and there, expressly and unequivocally, these distinct propositions, about which there can be neither misapprehension nor misrepresentation, were made.

1st. That Lincoln's Government would make no terms, or proposals of any agreement, looking to an ultimate settlement; nor accept any offer of such, from the authorities of the Confederate States.

2d. That he would offer no terms or proposals, nor accept any from the States separately.

3d. That the laying down of our arms—the unconditional submission of our people to the laws of the United States, and to his proclamation, as stated in his message of December last—would also be received.

4th. That no truce or armistice would be granted, except on the explicit assurance of such submission.

5th. That the two-thirds majority, in each House of Federal Congress, had passed the amendments to the United States Constitution, abolishing slavery, and this must be accepted as the disposition of the question.

6th. That the surrender of our Government and people would place the citizens, subject to the pains and penalties under the laws of the United States, for treason and rebellion, with a promise merely that Lincoln will make a liberal use of his power in remitting punishments.

And with this emphatic claim upon eight millions of people, to the absolute surrender of their rights, property, liberties and Government, they—Lincoln and Seward—disparaged our delegation—the one relating his jokes, and the other his blasphemous hypocrisy—"God bless you, Hunter. Remember me to old friends in the South."—As though the devil in Hell were to say to a lost soul, just arriving—"Good morning, friend. I give

you the most comfortable lodging in male-borger. God bless you."

The above is a fair recital of the attitude our enemies take towards us, and the insulting temper they display.

The single question now is: Do our people mean to submit? Will they accept the confiscation and emancipation of their property—the rule of the Yankee—the loss of liberty and the entailment upon their families, now, and for generations to come, of the horrors of subjugation. Or, will they, in the spirit of lofty and manly patriotism, forget the past difference, conciliate dissensions, and unite to save our country from the deplorable woes which threaten her.

The Yankee despotes, touching the peace negotiations, make a stronger case than even the report of our Commissioners. It appears from them that Mr. Stephens, in his earnestness to work out a solution of this dreadful difficulty, and to stop the horrors of war, asked only for a temporary recognition, with an assurance that, if such were granted, then an arrangement might be made, which would amount to a practical union of North and South. This was making the point fine.—It was possibly as extreme a ground as any true man in the South could acquiesce in.—But, even this was refused. No recognition, either of States or Confederacy, could be allowed even for the moment; and no negotiation could be entered on, except on the preliminary assurance, that submission would follow; and the acceptance of the laws and constitution of the United States—the proclamations of Lincoln—the abolition of slavery. And what a spectacle was here presented. In the very moment when he was thus arrogantly dictating as a conqueror, the terms which would be granted, Lincoln interposed the occasion with one of those rude and brutal exhibitions of buffoonery, which has made him famous, as the chief of Babboons.

These Yankee despotes say our Commissioners went into a fit of merriment over the exhibition. It is scarce credible. But if it be true, it shows how the exquisite mimicry of an ape, may disturb the most solemn occasions.

The whole matter is now before our countrymen. Are the people of North Carolina prepared to submit—to grovel in the dust—and find their privileges of life, property, honor and liberty in the leniency of Abraham Lincoln, William H. Seward, and the Yankee nation, if this be so, then the "spirit of the gamecock" is dead in the land; and the mothers of North Carolina have breded dunghills.

Taking it for granted that we are all united in the determination to resist to the death the ignominious and degrading terms, which the invader of our country dictates to us; and that the true-hearted people of North Carolina will emulate the hardy and invincible resolution of Virginia, we propose to our contemporaries of the Press, in Raleigh, to unite in an invitation to the people adjacent to Raleigh to assemble in mass meeting, in order to give expression to the sentiments of loyalty and the determination of patriotism; that our delegation in Congress, and such other distinguished citizens of the State as hold the confidence of people—without reference to political affiliations or differences of opinion—be invited to be present, and address the people on the condition of the country; and that steps may be taken, to harmonize and unite all the elements of society, in a common effort to defend our threatened liberties. We ask a response from them.

The news contained in the letter of our Kinston correspondent, as also that extracted from the State Journal of Thursday, is received as doubtful by persons here, who think that the force reported at Morehead city, only put in, because of stress of weather; that it was destined further south, and has left for its destination.

On the other hand, we have reason to apprehend that there is much of truth in the statements. If the intelligence is received through Gen. Baker's scouts, or by any channel with which he is connected, and he has permitted it to go to the public, we may take it for granted as authentic. He is not apt to be misinformed, and he certainly is no alarmist. We do not know whether the information from the State Journal is official or not.

Whether this information be true, or not, there ought to be but one purpose, in the State, and that is for immediate preparation. We hope no department of the State will go to sleep just now, and that Congress will wake up.

From our Kinston Correspondent.

Starting News From Below—The Enemy Landing in Force at Newbern—Anticipated Advance, &c.

KINSTON, Feb. 8th 1865.

Editor Confederate.—I am sorry to inform you that we have received news here, this morning (which is regarded reliable) to the effect that the enemy are landing in force at Newbern and Morehead city. From all accounts, 20,000 have already arrived, bringing with them, five Locomotives, and Railroad iron sufficient to lay down from thirty to forty miles of track.

This news is surely startling, and I am fearful there is much truth in it. I have not the time to write you more at present but will try and keep you posted.

The Standard and Progress, the ring-leaders of the croakers in North Carolina, are chiefly responsible for the invasion of our State by the enemy in force, at this time.

NEWSPAPERS TO BE SENT FREE OF POSTAGE TO SOLDIERS.—Both Houses of Congress having passed, over the veto by a two thirds vote the bill to authorize the mailing of newspapers to soldiers free of postage. The bill is now a law.

The Governor of the State to the People of South Carolina:

The doubt has been dispelled. The truth is made manifest—and the startling conviction is now forced upon us all. The invasion of the State has been commenced! Our people driven from their homes; their property plundered and destroyed; the torch and sword displayed, as the fate to which they are destined. The threats of an insolent foe are to be carried into execution, unless that foe is checked and beaten back.

I call now upon the people of South Carolina to rise up and defend, at once, their own rights and the honor of their State. I call upon every man to lay aside selfish considerations, and prepare to do his duty to his State. Let the engagements of ease and comfort become inglorious and unworthy; let those ends only be honorable which conduce to the defeat of the foe; let all who falter now, or hesitate be henceforth marked. All who have lived under the protection of the State, who have flourished under its laws, and shared its prosperity, will gladly arm to protect it from subjugation. If any seek to escape from duty and danger let them depart. The hour approaches when all who are true to the State will be found in the ranks of those who arm in its defence. There is room in the State but for one class of men; they are the men who will fight in her cause.

I give now timely warning to all. The period is near, when private business must be, for a season, suspended. While there is yet time, let all prepare to set their houses in order. Let us hope that the interval may be short in which we will pass from doubt to hope; let us feel that, as we grapple danger, we will pluck safety. In every District of the State the men will be organized. From a portion of these Districts will the militia be drawn. In others, more remote, it will be left for protection to persons and security to property. In such cases, the duty will be as imperative as in others, where the men are called from home.

In every quarter of the State, in every District, Village, and Town, let the men stand with their arms in their hands. When required to move, let them do so with expedition and hope. Until required to move, let them be vigilant, and prepared to repress disorder and put down violence. It is the duty of every man to oppose all the resistance he can to the approach of the enemy. It is the command of the State that he shall do so. The foe now upon the soil of the State is here to kill; let him be killed. The foe now upon the soil of the State is here for rapine and lust; let him meet resistance unto death. That foe devotes us to a doom worse than death: let him receive the fate he designs for us.

If any one is so ignorant of the temper with which this war has been waged by the foe, as to suppose that resistance provokes punishment, which he would not incur, let him be quickly and wisely. He is only safe who is armed; he is only safe who defends himself. The state, and not unsuccessful practice of the foe, is to promise pardon and threaten punishment. The threat is always executed when he dares; the promise never. Moreover, the State, your country, requires you to arm in its defence. It is not given to any man or any men within its territories to choose whether they will arm or not. When a merciless foe is abroad ravaging the fields, wasting the property, taking the lives of the people, insulting the sovereignty, and impeaching the independence of the State; when the State plants its banner, there will all true men gather. When the State calls, as it now does, to arms, all will echo that call; all must obey that summons.

Remove your property from the reach of the enemy; carry what you can to a place of safety; then quickly rally and return to the field. What you cannot rally, destroy. What you leave that will be of use to your foe, what he will not need, that will be destroyed. Indulge no sickly hope that you will be spared by submission; terror will but whet his revenge. Think not that your property will be respected, and afterwards recovered. No such feeling prompts him. You leave it but to support him on his course. Destroy what you cannot remove. He will make you return to your homes, over a charred and blackened region; prepare you the same way for him as he advances, let him read everywhere and in everything, that in this State, from one portion of it to the other, there is but one purpose and fixed resolve—that purpose is to meet him at every point; fight him at every road; that resolve is to undergo all suffering, submit to every sacrifice, welcome any fate, sooner than subjection by his army, or submission to his terms.

You have led the way in these acts which unite the people of our sister States in this confederation of States and their secession from the Government of the United States. You first fired the gun that set the flag of the United States, and caused that flag to be lowered at your command. As yet, you have suffered less than any other people. You have spoken words of defiance—let your acts be equally significant. In your sister States; with the people of those States; you have a common sympathy in the determination to be free, and in your hatred of the foe; you will not falter in that stronger sympathy which is derived from a common suffering.

You have defied a tyrant; do not apprehend his power. You have dared to die; fear not to die. No longer let the flag of his who has pride in the ancient honor of his State, that he is governed by those who hate it; and insult, with their vices, the virtues we have been taught to cherish.

Once more I say to you, your State is invaded. Once more I call upon you to arm in its defence. All who unite with us are more than brothers; all who desert us are as false as the foe which assails us.

It is said there are some who think they are not bound to fight with us; who affect a desire not to fight, what they call their allegiance to some foreign Power. It may be that there are some who hitherto have been misled. I will not believe that there live in South Carolina now, any man who, having been under the protection of the State and treated as that State treats its own citizens, will, at this time, attempt to find in this affected zeal for an allegiance he has practically abandoned, an excuse for the sinner he is bound to render. If there are such, let them be cold witnesses of the sufferings which others endure, while they are secure from danger. If they remain, they will do so with the full knowledge that the State expects and intends that every man shall do his duty.

Be as resolute as your cause is just, and triumphant success awaits you. What right have they to expect success in the sight of God who pursue, with unrelenting hatred, you, who seek nothing more than the privilege of accomplishing the great ends for which your God has given you being? You have not invaded their fields, nor sacked their cities, nor wasted their fields; nor murdered

their relatives, nor violated their wives and daughters. They pretend not to the plea of visiting upon you the terrible punishment of retaliation. They claim the right to reduce you to subjection; to hold you in bondage; to strip you of more than life, when they deprive you of the privileges dearer than existence. Rise, then, with the truth before you, that the can-e in which you are to arm is the cause of Justice and of Right! Strike, with the belief strong in your hearts, that the cause of Justice and of Right is the cause, which a Power superior to the hosts seeking to oppress you will not suffer to be overruled. And even upon the soil of the State in which this monstrous tyranny was first defied shall meet the fate it deserves, while imperishable honor will be awarded those who contributed to that great consummation, in which humanity will rejoice.

By the Governor.
A. G. MAGRATH.
HENRY BUST, Lt. Col. and A. D. C.

Captain Semmes.

Since the days of John Paul Jones, no commander of a single ship has achieved such a reputation; none, even including Jones, accomplished such results as Captain Raphael Semmes. Of late the rebels to whom this war has given rise, his hand has struck the most galling blows, and reached the most sensitive parts of the Yankee organization. Ever since the last war with England, that modest nation has arrogated to itself the dominion of the deep, and looked down with profound contempt upon pretensions to naval skill and enterprise by anybody outside of New England. A yet stronger passion was wounded by the career of Captain Semmes. Far more powerful than Jonathan's love of glory is her fondness for puff. Semmes, with a ruthless hand, stripped the ass of the lion's skin, and cleaned out the crib that held his feed. It seems almost incredible that a commercial marine, which claimed to be second to no other in the world, was literally swept from the seas by one man in a single ship. Such a prodigy will engage the wonder and admiration of posterity. It will read in the columns of history like the fabled achievements of the demigods of antiquity. But it is the literal truth; and the man who performed this next to miraculous wonder, and whose name will hereafter loom up among sea-kings like Linnaeus among the mountains, is as modest as he is heroic, as retiring among friends as he is audacious and unrelenting to his adversaries.

"This mode of warfare is contrary to our system and utterly infeasible," said an old German general whom Napoleon was pressing to the wall like an animated thunderbolt. The lightning like rapidity of Semmes upon the seas rivaled that of Napoleon upon the land. Of course his "mode of warfare was contrary to the (Yankee) system." Did they ever see the instructions of the Revolutionary Congress to "John Paul Jones, Esq." (see page thirty-eight of Sherburne's Life of Paul Jones), to "take, sink, burn or destroy all such of the enemy's ships, vessels, goods and effects as you may be able?" Perhaps the offence of Captain Semmes consists in his violation of the Yankee patent? Certain it is, Semmes had no such field of operations as Jones. No sea was safe from him. From the coast of the United States to the Cape of Good Hope there was not a wave that American commerce was secure on. The dreadful pestilence of the Flying Dutchman never caused more apprehension among superstitious mariners. He taught to scorn efforts of the whole United States navy to overtake him, though he made his path across the ocean as light as noonday by the blaze of burning ships. He might have escaped, finally, if he had not chosen to fight a vessel vastly the superior of his swift, but fragile bark; and then he buried her beneath the waves, and she went down to her grand man-of-war, unprovoked by a conqueror's footstep, with her misin accomplished, and the whole commercial marine of the United States vanished like the fog of the morning.

We hope the time is not far distant when Captain Semmes will be once more on the waters, in a ship worthy to bear the pennant of the most daring, enterprising and successful naval captain of modern times.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

Important Movement on Foot.

We have what we consider reliable news from inside the enemy's lines, in reference to an important movement from Newbern in the direction of Goldsboro'. The letter of our Kinston Correspondent, which should have appeared yesterday, gives a bare allusion to this matter; but since its receipt we have received the following particulars:

In the first place Grant has undoubtedly been in Beaufort. This is admitted by the *Newbern Times*. Our information is that he visited Newbern on last Sunday week, and had a lengthy conference with Gen. Palmer and Harland. On the matter of conference we of course know nothing. But is a fact that the railroad from Newbern towards Kinston is about to be re-built. The bridges are already constructed and in a condition to be put down; the iron is all in Newbern ready to be laid, and about five hundred men are now employed, at Batchelor's Creek, cutting cross-ties.

Our farther information is, that a corps from Grant's army was daily expected at Beaufort, and that the railroad from Newbern to Morehead City had been seized by the military authorities, exclusively for Government business, for fifteen days. No secret seems to be made of their operations below, and it is openly stated that a movement in co-operation with Sherman is to take place immediately, and General Schofield is named as the commanding General.

If our information be correct, and we are disposed to believe it so, an immediate landing of troops at Beaufort, will be made or perhaps has been made. The materials for rebuilding the railroad are nearly all ready. The troops will then probably push rapidly up to Kinston and cover the working parties on the road. What then? Does it not look very much like an attempt to establish a base of operations in this neighborhood, the supplies for which are to be transported from tide water by means of the railroad. While all this is the probable design of the Yankee, it will be found that the design and its execution are different institutions. We are not at all alarmed or scared. There are obstacles in the Yankee track and many more to be put there. We are merely giving our readers information, with the inferences we draw therefrom. Sherman and this affair will hardly co-operate during the next six months, and besides, there may be "nothing in it."—*Goldsboro' State Journal.*

Our readers attention is called to the new advertisements, in this issue. The Ladies, especially will not fail to read Tucker, Andrews & Co's; they have just received a stock of goods for their special benefit.

State and Local News.

FROM WILMINGTON.

We learn from the *Wilmington Carolinian*, that "the enemy were busy shelling Hoke's lines, on the 7th." Their gunboats daily pay their compliments to Fort Anderson, but do very little damage, and are invariably driven off by the batteries of the Fort. On Friday the 8th, two gunboats engaged the Fort, and during the shelling wounded six men of Co. B, 40th N. C. Regiment. The gunboats, fire was returned, and after the fifth shot from Capt. Mosley's Whitworth Battery, were driven off, one of them having received three shots through her hull; both of which passed entirely through her, below the water line.

List of casualties in Co. B, 40th Regiment N. C. T., by the fire of the enemy's ships, Friday February 8th, 1865:

WOUNDED.

1st Sergeant John A. Thomas, Washington, N. C., in arm, slightly.
Private Alfred Robinson, Martin county, N. C., arm and leg, slightly.
Private Robert Green, Pitt county, N. C., in head, severely.
Private Tracy E. Jackson, Beaufort county, N. C., side, severely.
Private William Whitaker, Beaufort county, N. C., leg, slightly.
Private John L. Potter, Beaufort county, N. C., leg, slightly.

JOHNSON'S SCHOOL ARITHMETIC: Branson & Farrar, Publishers.—We have received from Messrs. Branson & Farrar, an enterprising firm of Booksellers and Publishers, of this place, a copy of an "Elementary Arithmetic, designed for beginners;" embracing the first principles of the science." It is a first rate primary school book, of over 150 pages, by L. JOHNSON, A. M., Professor of Mathematics in Trinity College. It should be made a standard work, in all our primary schools. The arithmetic can be had at the Bookstore of Branson & Farrar, Raleigh, N. C.

The weather here is very cold, and threatened snow during yesterday, but at nightfall became fair. In the early part of Wednesday night there was a slight fall of snow, which, in its beginning, caused many of us to take a calculating glance at our wood piles, believing a regular snow-storm had set in.

A PUFF.—There is a superior lot of Cigars for sale at Turner's Bookstore. We have tried them.

War News.

We received no Richmond papers by yesterday's mail; and only one or two from the South, consequently we are without much news from the various seats of war.

SHERMAN.

We clip the following from the *Charleston Courier*, of the 6th, the only paper, out of the State, received by yesterday's western mail:

The line of the South Carolina Railroad, at last accounts, Monday evening, was still intact. A dispatch dated near Springfield, February 5th, 12 m., says: "The enemy demonstrated upon us along Little Salkehatchie for a distance of seven miles, but on discovering our batteries, after skirmishing with us for some time, commenced building barricades themselves, and have ceased skirmishing." Our scouts report last night no enemy nearer Lower Three Runs than about twelve miles. They also report the enemy moving on the Ma-hew's Bluff and Orangeburg road, which crosses the Salkehatchie at Buford's Bridge.

A body of the enemy are reported moving on Buford's Bridge and Backville road. A later dispatch, dated near Springfield, via Midway, 11:30 a. m., February 6th, says: "The enemy crossed a strong force to the left of our works at Odons Ford. The enemy can reach the railroad to-day."

LATER.—NEXUS SPRINGTOWN, February 6, 2:15 p. m., via Midway.—"The enemy are skirmishing with us at Odons Ford. Strength not yet ascertained."

No movement in our immediate front along the coast.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

OIL FOR SALE.

20 Bbls. Tanners Oil,
10 " Cotton Seed Oil,
10 " Linseed Oil.
Apply to W. R. MILLER,
New Oil Mills,
Raleigh, N. C.
Conservative and Progress copy.

NOTICE.

A small negro boy to hire for the balance of the year, by
R. G. LEWIS.
Feb 10-42

FOR RENT:

Two very fine rooms, suitable for a small family, or for bed-rooms, can be had immediately by addressing, BOX 115, City P. O.
Feb 10-42

18 DOZ. FRENCH AND ENG.

LINEN CLOTHS, AT
TUCKER, ANDREWS & CO.,
Feb 10-42

10 BOXES TIN PLATE,

BY
TUCKER, ANDREWS & CO.,
Feb 10-42

SPLENDID BEAVER CLOTH,

FOR MAKING OVERCOATS.
—ALSO—
Fine English Cassimeres.
Feb 10-42

ATTENTION LADIES!

3 Doz. (25 and 30 Hoops) Steel Spring Skirts,
Indie Mull Muslins,
Black Mullins,
Pleated (checked) Mullins,
18 Gross No. 1 Lead Pencils,
Fine Flax Thread,
On Consignment and for sale,
TUCKER, ANDREWS & CO.,
Feb 10-42

TELEGRAPHIC

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION

Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1864, by J. S. TOWNSEND, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

Enthusiastic War Meeting in Richmond.

THE FIRES OF 1861 REKINDLED.

Speeches by Senator Hunter, Secretary Benjamin, Mr. Gilmer, of N. C., etc.

RICHMOND, Feb. 9.—A great war meeting was held at the African Church to-day. The building was crowded an hour before the time fixed for the meeting. Thousands were unable to gain admittance. The assembly was addressed in stirring speeches by Senator Hunter, Secretary Benjamin, and Gilmer of North Carolina. It adjourned until 7 o'clock.

Another impromptu meeting was held at two o'clock in the hall of the House of Delegates and addressed by Goode, Fauston and Baldwin of the Virginia Delegation in Congress. The deportment of the people indicated a full acceptance of the continuance of the war forced upon them by the refusal of Lincoln to negotiate for peace.

The following resolutions, submitted by Sheffield were heartily applauded.

1st. Resolved, That events which have occurred during the progress of the war have but confirmed our original determination to strike for our independence; and that with the blessing of God we will never lay down our arms until it shall have been won.

2. Resolved, That, as we believe our resources sufficient for this purpose, we do not doubt but that we shall conduct the war successfully; and to that issue, and we hereby invoke the people, in the name of the holiest of all causes, to spare neither blood nor treasure in its maintenance and support.

3. Resolved, That we tender our thanks to our soldiers for their noble efforts in behalf of our country, its rights and liberties, and take this occasion to assure them that no effort of ours shall be spared, to assist them in maintaining the great cause to which we hereby devote ourselves, and our all.

Official from Gen. Lee.

RICHMOND, Feb. 8.—An official despatch from Gen. Lee says: The enemy made no advance from their position on Hatcher's Run yesterday; his skirmishers, however, were pushed forward against some points of our lines, but made no attack.

From Petersburg.

PETERSBURG, Feb. 8.—There is no fighting to-day, and quiet save more is resumed. The enemy still maintains his position on Hatcher's Run, and the lines have thereby been extended, but not advanced. Gen. Sorrel was wounded in the lungs, but the wound is not considered mortal. Col. Houston, of Virginia, was killed in the fight Monday. Our loss will not reach five hundred. Enemies lost estimated to be about three hundred. The dead have been buried, and the wounded brought from the field. The enemy is erecting observatories on our right. There was heavy cannonading yesterday afternoon, caused by our artillery shelling the enemy's lines; both sides were engaged to-day strengthening our lines.

The President and Mr. Seddon.

RICHMOND, Feb. 8.—Correspondence published in the *Signal* this morning of the President and Mr. Seddon, shows that the latter resigned the position of Secretary of War in consequence of a resolution adopted by the Virginia delegation in Congress, advising Legislation as to Cabinet by relieving all present heads. Seddon says after such expression of opinion he could no longer fill the position with full measure of usefulness to the President or Confederacy. The President in reply expressed his warm personal regard, and official confidence in Mr. Seddon. He discussed at considerable length the relations between Executive and Legislative departments of the government. He presented the right and privileges of the Confederate Congress in contrast with the British Parliament, Mr. Seddon in reply expressed his confidence in the views represented by the President, but adheres to his purpose of resigning.

Confederate Congress.

RICHMOND, Feb. 8.—In the House, the Senate resolutions of thanks to Capt. Semmes were unanimously concurred in. The bill for the payment of free negroes and slaves was referred to the committee of conference. The tax bill with substitutes thereon, heretofore considered in secret session, was further discussed in the committee of the whole, until the hour of adjournment. Nothing important done in the Senate.

RICHMOND, Feb. 9.—The Senate adjourned to-day immediately after the journal was read. In the House the Senate bill authorizing the appointment of a Commissary General, with the rank of Brig. General, passed. During its consideration, Mr. Baldwin remarked that, as the chairman of the committee, recently engaged in a searching investigation, he and the whole committee arrived at the conclusion that the present Commissary General had conducted the business of his office with a degree of system, energy and forecast, exhibited by few officers. The relations between Executive and Legislative departments at this time he should give way to some fortunate person.

The tax bill was further considered. Pending a motion to strike out a hundred per cent additional to the present tax and substitute one per cent, was rejected by a large majority.

Northern News.

RICHMOND, Feb. 8.—New York papers of the 6th contain a voluminous telegram from Washington relative to the result of the conference at Fortress Monroe.

A special dispatch to the *Times* says: Lincoln informed the Commissioners at every point that recognition was utterly out of the question; that the United States could stop the war only on condition precedent that the authority of the National Government should be recognized and obeyed over the whole territory of the United States. This point conceded, he assured them that upon every other article of difference they would be treated with the utmost liberality.

Another telegram says Stephens was the most liberal of the rebel delegation. His theory was, that if we would treat with them as an independent nation, that such agreement could be had as would, practically, unite North and South.

A special to the *Tribune* says: Stephens surpassed all his old exhibitions of shrewdness and force in putting forth the demands of the Confederacy. At the conclusion of one of his points, Lincoln, leaning forward, interrupted him with "that reminds me of a little story. The man in Illinois"—the commissioners instantly jumped up in warm remembrance. After the story, resumed, and pursued to the end, his statement, of terms, on which he thought the rebels would be willing to stop the war. He proposed and urged his crazy scheme of temporary recognition. But recognition absolutely or temporary, the three commissioners stood like rocks. The result of the conference is, the union of all parties in power of a vigorous prosecution of the war.

Fernando Wood took the war path Saturday; Cox, and other democrats, who take it to-morrow. Gold opened in New York Monday, at 20 1/2. Foster has been succeeded by Gilmore, in command of the District of South Carolina. The Legislature of West Virginia has passed the bill abolishing slavery.